

Solar Eclipse - Monday, April 8, 2024

Information Regarding Solar Eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

As you know, an eclipse will be taking place on Monday. For South Florida we are to experience a partial eclipse between 48% and 53%. The partial eclipse may be visible as early as 1:45 pm and may not conclude until 4:15 pm. This is during regular dismissal times.

The day of the eclipse is a great opportunity for students and adults, but many may be unaware of the dangers. Even looking at a small part of the eclipse can be dangerous to the eyes if proper precautions are not taken. In an effort to keep all students safe, we will be taking the following precautions:

1. Movement outside during the eclipse will be limited.
2. All schools will dismiss students at the regularly scheduled time and elementary schools will follow rainy day dismissal procedures on Monday. Buses may arrive a few minutes late due to rainy day dismissal at the elementary school levels.
3. As a part of the curriculum, principal-approved activities regarding the eclipse may occur such as viewing with appropriate eyewear or other indirect viewing of the event with close supervision to protect students.
4. Students will be dropped off at their normal bus stop during the time of the eclipse. If you believe your child may look at the eclipse out of curiosity, we encourage you to meet at the stop for supervision on the walk home.
5. Students who are signed out by their parent/guardian prior to the eclipse event will be excused beginning at 12:00 pm. Parents must follow normal sign-out protocol through the school's Front Office. Please note that student checkouts prior to 12:00 PM will only be excused for a qualifying reason.
6. If your student regularly stays for the after-care program, they will follow their normal schedule and have after-care at their regular after-care school site, with regular pick-up times. The only change on Monday will be all after-care activities will be held indoors.

Prior to April 8, it is important for parents and guardians to talk to their children and remind them never to look directly into the sun at any time or for any reason.

Additional details for your review are available on [our District website](#) and NASA's website: <https://science.nasa.gov/eclipses/future-eclipses/eclipse-2024/safety/>

As always, Okeechobee County Schools appreciates and respects the partnership we have with you to provide a quality educational experience, and we thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Dylan Tedders
Interim Superintendent